

MRS. HARRISON PEACEFULLY PASSES AWAY.

At 1:45 O'clock This Morning the Spirit of the President's Wife Departed.

THE FAMILY PRESENT FOR HOURS BEFORE.

Surrounding the Deathbed of One They Loved So Well and Who They Knew Must Die.

FAITHFUL TO THE LAST THE BEREAVED HUSBAND

Could Not Be Induced to Close His Eyes to Take the Rest of Which He Stood in Such Need.

A Terrible Suspense Ended - The Wonderful Recuperative Powers of the Patient Sustained Vitality for Hours After It Seemed She Must Die

Premature Reports of Her Death Bring a Stream of Telegrams of Condolence to the White House, Among the First Being One From Grover Cleveland - The Death Chamber the Same in Which Garfield Was So Ill - Mrs. Harrison Meets Death With Christian Resignation - The Second Wife of a President to Die in the White House.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—Mrs. Harrison died at 1:45 o'clock A. M., surrounded by the members of the family, Dr. Gardner, and the nurses. Those at the bedside were the president, Mr. and Mrs. McKee, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Harrison, Private Secretary Hallford, Lieutenant and Mrs. Parker, Mrs. Dimmick, Dr. Gardner, Miss Davis, Mrs. and Mrs. Harrison's maid Josephine, the venerable Dr. Scott, Mrs. Harrison's sister, retired before midnight, and did not witness the death scene. Mrs. Harrison met death with the patience and resignation of a devout Christian, and her last hours were comparatively free from pain.

A DAY OF WEARINESS.

Sorrowful Hours for the President and His Family - Beautiful Indian Summer Weather - Members of the Cabinet on Their Way to Washington - Awaiting the Inevitable End.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—[Special.]—This has been a day of weariness and torture for President Harrison and the members of his household. Since 10 o'clock last night they have been hourly expecting the hand of death to enter the broad door of the Executive Mansion. They have long been prepared for his coming, but dreaded his approach none the less.

THE DEATH CHAMBER

Was the One in Which Garfield Suffered - Mrs. Harrison Selected It and Had It Furnished to Suit Her Own Exquisite Taste - A Sunny Outlook Its Chief Recommendation.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—[Special.]—The room in which Mrs. Harrison died is the chamber next to the small boudoir at the southwest corner of the mansion. The little room at the corner has been used for years and years back by former mistresses of the mansion as their own private sitting room. It has one window, facing the south.

In the same chamber where Mrs. Harrison has spent so many weeks of suffering, the wounded Garfield was carried and remained during the months of pain and sickness until he was carried from it to the seashore. The room will always be associated with his life at the White House. One of the many schemes tried to make his closing days more comfortable during that hot summer was to take him through the furnace register. It was successful, and the register put in for the purpose is the lasting souvenir which remains in the room. A year ago last July, when the room was redecorated, the register was wreathed in a vine of roses like the ferning the frize.

Arthur Woodard's Sleep There.

When President Arthur came to the house upon particular room seemed so shadowed by the painful associations of Garfield's illness that he selected as his bed-chamber a room directly opposite, on the north side of the house. President Cleveland in turn used the same room also, and when Mrs. Cleveland came she made no change. Mrs. Harrison, however, preferred the southwest chamber because of its sunny outlook and devoted as she was to all old-time traditions of the house, that fact alone would have strengthened her in her selection for the many reasons, and principally because, as the two precedents had shown, it was the room in which it had not come within the era of improvement, but in the last decade have so completely changed other parts of the house several times over.

It was decidedly the shabbiest room in the house when Mrs. Harrison took possession. After she had her wish gratified in the restoration of the blue parlor and the partial refurbishing of the other rooms on the first floor—a change which, as she well knew, would give great pleasure to everyone who came to the mansion—she turned her attention to brightening up the private apartments upstairs. All this work was, however, planned on a much simpler scale. She took all the more pains with her selections, however, so as to make the work as attractive but as enduring as possible.

A Dainty Blue and Silver Room.

For her own room Mrs. Harrison selected the design, and the wall paper was made from it. In July, 1891, the room was finished in a dainty blue and silver scheme, and she was greatly pleased with the result.

The room is a blue room, very dainty and light in all its treatment. The wall paper is of blue and silver. The papered ceiling is flecked with the same tints, and lines of blue and pink border the frieze, which is looped with a white cord. The work in the room is finished in blue, and all the little accessories conform to the same all-very and blue tones.

Over the old-fashioned white marble mantel piece several pieces of Mrs. Harrison's own work are hung. They are paintings on canvas and porcelain, some of the White House flowers being thus perpetuated by the gentle mistress of the house. The furniture in the room is not unlike that in the other chambers, solid mahogany, rather ponderous and old-fashioned. Mrs. Harrison, in the early period of her occupancy, had the stately canopy bed removed, and substituted for it two low brass bedsteads. She had also a few wicker rockers and easy chairs substituted for the older pieces of furniture. A carpet in which dull blue predominated was laid over the floor.

Harrison's return from Loon Lake a month ago, and which has since continued, was at the height of its beauty to-day. A fresh north-west breeze blowing, the sun was like that of midsummer, and lighted up into a myriad colors the turning leaves of the luxuriant foliage of the White House grounds. An Indian summer has been over everything, and Washington was never more beautiful.

In the opinion of Dr. Gardner the bracing atmosphere had much to do with the return to Mrs. Harrison of the occasional moments of strength and apparent vitality that were noticeable throughout the day. Silence reigned around and about the mansion from morning until night. The few visitors who were present were all on tiptoe, and others and other employees went about noiselessly like mourners at a funeral. No one night came the corridors of the big house were completely deserted, and the members of the family, with the physician and nurse, waited silently in the room upstairs for the end which they knew must soon come.

A NIGHT OF TORTURE

For the Weary Watchers About the Bedside of the Invalid—While at Tea They Were Warned of the Approaching End—Premature Reports of Death Cause a Flood of Telegrams of Condolence.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—[Special.]—At 11 o'clock to-night the watchers at the bedside of Mrs. Harrison were unable to say whether the patient would live to see another day. She was still breathing faintly and irregularly, but gave no other sign of life. The President, Dr. Gardner, Mrs. McKee, Dr. Scott, Mrs. Dimmick, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Harrison and one or two others had not left the room since early in the evening, and all realized that the end was very near.

The unexpected vitality exhibited by Mrs. Harrison was a surprise to all about her bedside, and while they could not wish, in view of her sufferings, that she would live to see another day, they were beginning to believe that she would remain alive at least until morning.

There were no signs of life about the mansion to-night outside of the sick room, except that at the vestibule door in the main floor, two hours were in attendance, and in the office room upstairs Private Secretary Hallford and his assistants, including the regular telegraph operator and a few newspaper reporters, were waiting for the information Mrs. Harrison's sufferings were at an end.

Callers Leave Cards of Sympathy.

There were no callers on the driveway before the portico, and only at infrequent intervals a caller came to leave a card of sympathy at the door. About 6 o'clock this evening the members of the family, with the exception of the President, went downstairs for tea. While they were at the table Miss Davis, the trained nurse, sounded the electric bell to notify them that the end was at hand. They left the dining room and returned to the sick room.

The accumulations in Mrs. Harrison's throat were so great that her breathing was checked for a few seconds. While the trained nurse stood around her bed, however, she regained her breathing faculties and looked inquiringly at the President. By that time Dr. Gardner arrived, and after an examination of his patient, sent a note to the telegraph office stating that Mrs. Harrison was still living, and requesting that an emphatic denial of the report be given.

Premature Reports of Her Death. In the meantime the family decided that they would not return to the dining room, but brought refreshments to the sick room. The President had taken his meals during the past two days.

About 9 o'clock the telegrams of condolence commenced to pour in, and Mr. Montgomery was kept busy at the receiving wire. He called Private Secretary Hallford's attention to the fact, and suggested that a premature announcement of Mrs. Harrison's death must have been made at some point in the West. These telegrams came first from Indianapolis and vicinity, and subsequently from the Northwest. Mr. Hallford sent out a bulletin stating that Mrs. Harrison was still living, and requesting that an emphatic denial of the report be given.

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HER LIFE AND WORKS.

How she Bore Herself in the Exalted Position in Which She Was Placed—A Most Industrious and Graceful Mistress of the Presidential Mansion.

Mrs. Carrie Scott Harrison was born 57 years ago, her parents being Rev. and Mrs. John D. Witherspoon Scott. Her father was a Presbyterian clergyman, President of the Oxford (Ohio) Normal College, and her mother's maiden name was Mary Neal. As Miss Scott, Mrs. Harrison became acquainted with the President while he was a student at Oxford, Ohio, and there, on October 20, 1853, they were married. Their honeymoon was passed under the parental roof at North Bend, below Cincinnati.

In the following March the young couple went to Indianapolis and began married life with a cash capital of \$800. They lived in a boarding house. In the summer of 1854 Mrs. Harrison paid a visit to her parents at Oxford, and there, on August 13, Russell Harrison, her eldest child, was born. The young mother returned in the autumn to Indianapolis, and for a while the family occupied a cottage of three rooms. Two years later Mrs. Harrison was residing over a larger and more pretentious house. Here was born their second and last child, Mary Scott Harrison, who afterward became Mrs. W. B. McKee.

As the wife of a senator.

In 1861 General Harrison entered the Senate of the United States and Mrs. Harrison became a member of that distinguished circle, the wives of Senators. In her Washington residence of six years Mrs. Harrison exerted an influence of unusual character. Her name was associated with noble charities and church work. The Garfield Hospital owes its present success in a large degree to her active interest as one of its first directors.

In appearance Mrs. Harrison was a type of matronly beauty. In figure she showed the generosity of nature, and in mind nature's equal beneficence, expanded by training in the acquirement of useful talents, drawn from the broadest opportunities. A lavish growth of hair, silvered with the threads of a little over a half century of life, floating in curly waves over a well-shaped head and ending in a graceful coil, and regular features and dark, expressive eyes formed a picture of ripened womanhood. She had a voice softened by the instincts of a gentle nature and a gift of conversation which, when animated, was thoughtful.

Her Greatest Charm.

The tastes of Mrs. Harrison were in the direction of art. Her works in water colors are the evidences of her gifts and application to her favorite recreation. She was by nature strongly artistic, and her work in water colors, drawn from the broadest opportunities. A lavish growth of hair, silvered with the threads of a little over a half century of life, floating in curly waves over a well-shaped head and ending in a graceful coil, and regular features and dark, expressive eyes formed a picture of ripened womanhood. She had a voice softened by the instincts of a gentle nature and a gift of conversation which, when animated, was thoughtful.

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said that a brief 15 minutes must surely finish the struggle.

The agitation of the family physician could no longer be controlled, and, realizing his utter helplessness to longer cope with his formidable foe, and from consideration for the sacredness of such grief as this, the devoted physician and friend bowed his head and passed out of the door. Outside of the threshold he took his station and waited. It was not a long time. The minutes flew like seconds and suddenly there was an expression of heart-stricken woe and the end had come. The President was beside his dying wife, as he had been for nine hours.

DIED LIKE MRS. TYLER.

Mrs. Harrison the Second Wife of a President to Die in the White House.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—[Special.]—Although the historic old White House has been the home of Presidents for nearly a century, only one President's wife has died under its roof. This was Mrs. Letitia Christian Tyler, wife of President John Tyler.

She was the first woman to die in the White House, and her husband had succeeded to the Presidency by the death of President William Henry Harrison, grandfather of the present Executive, who was the first to be buried in the mansion. Her death occurred in 1842.

CLEVELAND'S CONDOLENCE PREMIERE.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—[Special.]—Among the first telegrams received at the White House to-night was a message of condolence to the President and family from Grover Cleveland. It was at once informed that the announcement of Mrs. Harrison's death was premature.

CUPID HAD HIS WAY.

The Son of an Ohio Millionaire Elopes With a School Teacher.

SPRINGFIELD, O., Oct. 24.—Finley B. Thomas, son of John H. Thomas, the millionaire manufacturer and politician of this city, eloped Sunday with Miss Minnie Wadsworth, a pretty school teacher of Cold Spring, Ky., and the couple were married at Cleveland, Ohio, last night. Their arrival here this afternoon created a sensation, as not even Thomas' parents knew he was a benedict.

The marriage is quite a romance. A year ago young Thomas met his bride while traveling through Kentucky. He visited her frequently and finally asked her to marry him, and she consented. Some five months ago the couple eloped to Newport, Ky., but they were stopped by a peremptory telegram before the marriage was consummated. Miss Wadsworth then spiritedly refused to have anything to do with Thomas until he had secured his parents' consent. After five months' persuasion he finally overcame her objections and another elopement was successfully planned and the marriage was consummated Sunday.

A FEUD REVIVED.

Three Additions to the Long List of Victims of a Kentucky Quarrel.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 24.—A telegram received here says the Tolliver-Howard feud has broken out again in Western Kentucky with fatal results. A general fight occurred at Hogtown, Rowan county, last night between the two factions. Colonel Tolliver was shot in the breast and instantly killed. Willie Tolliver was killed in the bowels and Sam Howard received four rifle balls in the body. The men will surely die. Their relatives and friends are arming and a battle is expected to-night or to-morrow.

This feud has been smoldering for two years, ever since Captain Hank Tolliver married the widow of one of the Howards he had killed, and everybody thought the troubles had ended by the marriage. Captain Tolliver has been in Virginia for a year. This feud has already resulted in more than 50 deaths, and the present trouble promises to add many to this list.

WOMEN'S BUILDINGS DEDICATED.

Another Department Added to the Western Reserve University.

CLEVELAND, O., Oct. 24.—The new buildings of the College for Women, a new department of Western Reserve University, co-ordinate with Adelbert College, were dedicated to-day. The buildings consist of Clark Hall, the gift of Mrs. Eliza Clark, of this city, costing \$54,000, and Guilford Cottage, given by Mrs. Samuel Mather, costing \$25,000.

The dedicatory address was delivered by Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer, formerly President of Wellesley College, on "The Higher Education of Woman and the Way in Which She is Gaining Recognition at the Larger Universities." The address was founded in 1888 with two regular students, and it now has 35 enrolled.

WANAMAKER WINS A SUIT.

A District of Columbia Court Decides a Case in His Favor.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—The District of Columbia Court in general term, this morning decided the case of the United States, ex rel Elizabeth Trask, against John Wanamaker, Postmaster General. The relator was the Postmaster of Emporia, Kan., from 1864 to June 20, 1870, but claimed that she was entitled to a readjustment of salary and there was due her \$2,306.19, and she by mandamus to compel such readjustment and that she be credited with the amount stated.

The Court holds that the act of 1865 was prospective and the act of 1868 does not alter this so as to entitle the relator to the relief, and the writ is denied.

A MYSTERY SOLVED.

The Atlantic City Suicide Was the Son and Heir of a Self-Murderer.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Oct. 24.—Some what later developments were brought out to-day at the coroner's inquest over the body of Hicks P. Garrett, of San Francisco, who was found dead in his room at the Manhattan House Sunday morning, where he had given the name of Wilson. Eldredge, a dentist of West Chester, Pa., who was Garrett's friend, testified that the latter was the son and heir of Enos Garrett, who killed himself in West Chester about a year ago, and left a large estate of which Eldredge was the executor.

BLOWN UP BY DYNAMITE.

A Hundred Pounds Exploded by a Spark From a Blacksmith's Anvil.

HUNTINGDON, Pa., Oct. 24.—A spark from a blacksmith's anvil ignited a large can of gins powder and 100 pounds of dynamite at the sand quarries of J. N. Foust near here to-day, causing an explosion that rounded for miles around, and rattled the windows throughout this town. The shops and other buildings at the quarry were totally demolished and Fireman Levi Mundorf instantly killed. He leaves a wife and eight children.

A RECEPTION TO MINISTER EGAN.

New York, Oct. 24.—Patrick Ford, editor of the Irish-American, tendered a reception at his residence in Brooklyn to-night, to Hon. Patrick Egan, Minister to Ohio.



MRS. BENJAMIN HARRISON.

A FAMINE OF WATER.

Eastern Pennsylvania Suffering From the Long Drouth.

RIVERS AND STREAMS RUN DRY. Crops Refuse to Germinate and Fields Become a Dreary Waste.

A SERIOUS CONDITION OF AFFAIRS

READING, Pa., Oct. 24.—The drouth, water scarcity and mountain fires have all contributed to the very general alarm which is to-day felt throughout the eastern section of the State. There is not merely the statement that the water supply is meager, but to-day, as never before in the Lebanon and Schuylkill valleys, there is an actual and impending water famine, a serious condition of things never known before. In the country districts hundreds of wells are dry in every township, and farmers have to go a great distance for water. The fields were almost ready to burst their banks, now only carry an insignificant volume of water, while many meadow streams are as dry as ovens, and some farmers and stock owners are sorely pressed for a water supply and in some cases live stock is driven a mile and more daily to water.

Only a Stagnant Stream Now.

The Schuylkill 20 miles above Reading has developed into a sluggish, lazy little stream, incapable of holding more than a rowboat, and it can be crossed by merely stepping from one stone to another. Along the Perkasie Valley everything is drying up, and to-day the prevailing, all-absorbing topic everywhere is the great water scarcity.

Three or four boroughs and other places in the coal regions shut off their water supply from householders a certain number of hours each day and at several boroughs in this county notices have been posted that water will be cut off for a certain number of hours each day that if Weigand married Miss Charleston she would kill herself. She had gone into the female department of a saloon near the residence where the ceremony occurred and taken morphine this afternoon. At 8 o'clock to-night she was not so far gone, but she was able to renew the dose, and died at once.

MARRIAGE AND DEATH.

The Sensational Suicide of a Woman While Her Lover Was Wedded.

COLUMBUS, O., Oct. 24.—[Special.]—A combined wedding and suicide presented a strange scene at a Western residence to-night. Frank Weigand, a well known person who has kept a record says that there were ten inches less rainfall in the Schuylkill Valley this year than during the same period last year. The figures are: 1891, 44 inches; 1892, 34 inches.

In Mahanoy City, Ashland and neighboring places, the authorities are especially vigilant to prevent a waste of water because of the low condition of the reservoirs and only turn it on a few hours daily. In many small coal region towns children are kept from school and their time occupied in carrying water from long distances, while at several places water is distributed in water tanks filled at remote places and hauled on the railroad.

Fears of Cold Weather.

Some people entertain the fear that cold weather will set in before the water supply is enhanced by rain, in the event of which the situation would become doubly distressing. This is the situation in the coal regions and one well-informed person says that a 400-hour continuous rain would be worth \$500,000 to Eastern Pennsylvania. This is not a fanciful picture of the situation, but bottom fact.

Added to this drouth and water scarcity, are the mountain fires which have raged in Schuylkill and different parts of Berks during the past 24 hours, and well-informed persons here declare that the destruction of every acre of timber, the sufferings of the community at large from a water famine will only be so much severe. Valuable property had a narrow escape from destruction on the mountains surrounding Reading last night, and hard work alone saved it from destruction. In lower Berks, at several places, farmers were fighting flames nearly all night and hundreds of acres of valuable timber have been destroyed.

FOREST FIRES RAGING.

Mountains Ablaze in Many Localities and the Ruin Spreading.

HUNTINGDON, Pa., Oct. 24.—The mountains surrounding this town are ablaze to-night for miles in extent with the fire spreading rapidly. On the east, in Henderson township, the forest fires now cover the public roads, leaving no outlet to the farmers and rendering the roads impassable. The farmers in many sections of the county have been hustling with the flames for several days in order to save their buildings and fences. Some who are now closely pressed have removed their household goods to places of safety. The flames in most cases originated through the carelessness of gunners.

A dispatch from Carlisle, Pa., says: Four large mountain fires are raging in this vicinity. Two in the South Mountain have a front of 40 miles, and are sweeping southward. The warehouse of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company at Hunter Run was destroyed last evening, and now all that is left there is one house and a

WANT ADS

Bring the best